

BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
March 20, 2007 MINUTES

On Tuesday, March 20, 2007, a meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 10:00 AM with Commissioners David Schulz, Lewis Stahl and Jim Hart present.

Lewis Stahl moved to approve the March 13, 2007, minutes with corrections. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were MaryAnn O'Malley, Lana Atkins, Peggy Kaatz, Karen Brown, Margie Edsall, Janie Alt, Kathy Stone, Chris Mumme, Chris Christensen, Roger Staley, Lizz Babcock, Linda Robertson, Vicki Tilstra, Carmin Hill, Patty Davis, Barbie Durham, Karen Miller, Amy Donovan, Joanne Erdall, Jill Steeley, Brandy Hilton, Shelly Burke, Mike Berry, Larry Meyer, Jim Tuell, Walt Adams, Doris Fischer, Staci Beecher, Cameron Clark, and Dave Schenk.

Claims (Week of March 26, 2007): The Board continued this portion of the meeting to Friday, March 23, 2007.

Grants (MDT Equipment Grant): The Board reviewed a grant agreement from the Montana Department of Transportation for the purchase of equipment in the Sheriff's Department. The Board continued this portion of the meeting to Wednesday, March 21, 2007, when the Sheriff would be able to be present.

Personnel Policy Manual Discussion: MaryAnn O'Malley, Justice of the Peace, met with the Board to discuss removing the language in part H on page 15 of the Madison County Personnel Policy Manual. MaryAnn will write a revision of part H and submit it to the Board.

Staff Meeting: Those present for the staff meeting were Lana Atkins, Peggy Kaatz, Karen Brown, Margie Edsall, Janie Alt, Kathy Stone, Chris Mumme, Chris Christensen, Roger Staley, Lizz Babcock, MaryAnn O'Malley, Linda Robertson, Vicki Tilstra, Carmin Hill, Patty Davis, Barbie Durham, Karen Miller, Amy Donovan, Joanne Erdall, Jill Steeley, Brandy Hilton, and Shelly Burke.

- **Employee Wellness Program:** Jill Steeley, Public Health Administrator, presented the staff with the proposed Madison County Employee Wellness Program. Jill passed out questionnaires as to which plan was preferred by the employees. Vicki Tilstra, Bookkeeping, asked if this plan would also include Nursing Home employees. Jill stated that it could if nursing home employees choose to participate.
- **Building Project (Law and Justice Center):** David Schulz discussed the Law and Justice Center and stated that the Board is considering contracting with an individual to compile information regarding the Law and Justice Center and present that information to the public before the bond issue is again placed on the ballot. He commended Carmin Hill for the documentation she has put together regarding jail costs.
- **Clerk/Deputy Worker's Comp Rates:** Vicki Tilstra, Bookkeeping, discussed the difference in Worker's Compensation rates for Deputies/Administrative Assistants versus Clerks. The rate for Clerks is higher because it is typically the responsibility of Clerks to get the mail. The Board will contact MACo to get a safety person to come to Madison County to review the regulations.
- **Day After Thanksgiving Off:** The Board checked on a request from an employee to work on Columbus Day and take the day after Thanksgiving off instead. David Schulz explained that the State mandates that offices are required to be open on any day that is not a legal holiday and that anyone who works on Columbus Day would have to be paid time and a half because it is a legal holiday. Another thing Commissioner Schulz noted was that the same statute stated that all County officials, except the Justice of the Peace, must keep their offices at the County seat.
- **Easter Pot Luck and Egg Hunt:** Shelly Burke, Treasurer, discussed the possibility of having an Easter Pot Luck and Easter Egg Hunt. The Clerk and Recorder's Office volunteered to be in charge of the pot luck and the Public Health Department and Panky House employees will be in charge of the egg hunt.
- **Employee Concerns:** Joanne Erdall, Librarian, stated that the Library has new books and new movies and asked that employees come over and check them out and send people over to do research. Carmin Hill, Detention Officer, stated that Dan Birdsill will be giving classes to employees that are interested in learning how to run the defibrillator. Lana Atkins, Clerk and Records Office, stated that she had come up to use the jury room for lunch and it was unavailable. She asked that it be announced if the jury room is being used. The Board asked how many people would be interested in attending First Aide or CPR classes if they were made available to all employees. Most responded that they would be interested. Jim Hart will look into the possibility of having Jill Steeley, Public Health Administrator, and Molly Peterson, Public Health Nurse, certified to give classes.

Cliff and Wade Emergency Road Opening: The Board discussed a request for an emergency opening of the Cliff and Wade Lakes road. The road is normally closed until April 15th to prevent damage from vehicles using it. Jim Hart will discuss opening the road with Dean Stemler, District 3 Road Crew Foreman.

Airports: The Board discussed fence repairs needed at the Twin Bridges airport. Lewis Stahl will ask Shane Escott, District 2 Road Crew Foreman, to complete the necessary repairs and put "No Trespassing" signs in the area that the fence is being damaged. The Board will ask Rick Donaldson of PECCIA and Associates if there is enough grant money left to buy gates for this area.

Wolf Delisting: Lewis Stahl moved to approve a letter to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services supporting the de-listing of the Northern Rocky Mountain gray wolf from the Endangered Species List. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Airport Fly-In Insurance: The Board received a request from Ruby Valley Aviation to purchase Event Insurance for the annual Father's Day Fly-In held at the Twin Bridges airport. David Schulz stated that this event brings in several people and aircrafts, promotes the airport, and brings revenue to the local communities. Jim Hart moved to authorize payment for Event Insurance of up to \$2000 for the Father's Day Fly-In at the Twin Bridges airport. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Pony Alley Closure Request: The Board received a petition to close the alley between East Street and Beatrice Avenue in Block 2 of the Schmalhusen Addition to the Town of Pony. Lewis Stahl moved to accept the petition for road closure as described. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Jim Hart moved to appoint Lewis Stahl and Forrest (Frosty) Armstrong as official viewers of the alley requested to be closed. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. The Board set a public hearing for April 24, 2007, at 1:30 pm.

Fiber Cable to the Home in Twin Bridges and Sheridan: Mike Berry, Larry Meyer, Jim Tuell, and Walt Adams, 3 Rivers Communications, met with the Board to discuss plans to provide fiber cable to the home in the towns of Twin Bridges and Sheridan. The work is scheduled to begin in Twin Bridges around the first of June by an independent contractor hired by 3 Rivers. Walt Adams will be working on permitting and Rights of Way and Mike Berry will be the local contact to answer any questions.

Bear Creek Estates Subdivision: Peggy Kaatz, Clerk and Recorder, Doris Fischer, Planner, and Staci Beecher, Planner 1, met with the Board to discuss the Bear Creek Estates Subdivision. Although the preliminary plat has been conditionally approved by the Board, Peggy would still like a previous survey of the property, which left two remainder parcels, vacated as requested in letter from her to the landowners. Jim Hart will approach the landowners to vacate that survey.

Extension Update: Cameron Clark, Madison and Jefferson County Extension Agent, met with the Board with an Extension update. Cameron stated that 4-H is doing very well in the second year since the restructure; he has been working with FFA alumni groups; he has conducted Market Quality Assurance classes; Ranchers Roundtables in Sheridan and Whitehall have been going well; and the office environment has been pleasant, friendly, and busy.

South Boulder River Bridge: The Board discussed a request to reimburse Nathan Tebay for work he performed to clean out blockage in the South Boulder River near Cardwell. The work had been requested by Russell Munson. Lewis Stahl moved to pay \$290 toward the bill to clean out the blockage in the South Boulder River. The motion died for lack of a second.

Tower Ordinance Waiver Request: the Board discussed a request to waive the requirements for permitting for a wind energy project near Norris. Jim Hart moved to deny the waiver of permitting requirements request as referenced in the letter from Karen McMullin dated March 14, 2007. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Building Project (Law & Justice Center): The Board discussed contracting with an individual to compile information regarding the proposed Law and Justice Center. Jim Hart moved to advertise for a Law and Justice Center Project Information Coordinator for an amount not to exceed \$2500, with a deadline of noon April 2, 2007. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Commissioner's Meeting – March 20, 2007

RID Adjustments: Shelly Burke, Treasurer, met with the Board to discuss RID adjustments. Jim Hart moved to request the Treasurer to process a refund to Williams Associates Retirement Trust in the amount of \$661.98 for 2005 and 2006 billing errors. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Lewis Stahl moved to request the Treasurer to process a refund to Boyne, USA in the amount of \$5,498.81 for 2005 billing errors. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

With no further business this portion of the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 21, 2007: Commissioner David Schulz was not present for the remainder of the meeting.

Grants (MDT Equipment Grant): Dave Schenk, Sheriff, met with the Board to discuss the grant agreement from the Montana Department of Transportation for the purchase of equipment in the Sheriff's Department. The grant agreement shows that the equipment to be purchased is one in-car video camera. The Sheriff stated that he no longer needs the video camera and that he will request an amendment to the grant allowing him to purchase two mobile radios instead. Lewis Stahl moved to accept the Standard Agreement between the State Highway Traffic Safety Bureau, Montana Department of Transportation, and Madison County, dated March 1, 2007, for the purchase of two mobile radios for an amount not to exceed \$4500. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Friday, March 23, 2007:

Claims: The Board approved claims.

David Schulz, Chairman
Board of Madison County Commissioners

Date Approved: April 3, 2007

Minutes prepared by:

Laurie Buyan, Administrative Assistant

Peggy Kaatz, Clerk and Recorder, Madison County